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LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF GERMANY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Kosovo issued by the European Union on 31 May 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gerhard Walter HENZE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Kosovo issued by the European Union in Brussels on 31 May 1999

1. The international community continues to exert strong pressure on the Belgrade authorities to reverse their course of action in Kosovo and accept its demands for a political solution. The Council reaffirmed the European Union's full support for the efforts, including a possible mission to Belgrade in the coming days, by the President of Finland, Martti Ahtisaari, on behalf of the European Union, in close cooperation with the United States, Russia and the United Nations. In this regard, the Council expects Belgrade to translate its reported statements into a firm, unambiguous and verifiable commitment to accept the G8 principles and a Security Council resolution. The Presidency will remain in close contact with President Ahtisaari with a view to his attending the European Council in Cologne.

2. The Council welcomed the strong endorsement by the international community of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and the result of the Petersberg Conference of 27 May. Work should now be carried forward urgently to clear remaining open issues among participants. The European Union looks forward to an early ministerial meeting to adopt the Stability Pact, and welcomed the Presidency's preparations for it.